

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: PFOR EAIR YO US

SUBJ: TWA HIJACKING - ZAGREB PRESS REACTION

REF: ZAGREB 775

1. ZAGREB PRESS CONTINUES TO REPORT AND COMMENT HEAVILY ON TWA HIJACKING. SEPTEMBER 15 VJESNIK CARRIED FRONT PAGE STORY ON MEETING OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF FEDERAL SKUPSTINA IN BELGRADE AT WHICH DELEGATE CRITICIZED "MANY YEARS OF TOLERATION OF ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES IN US." THREE OTHER VJESNIK ARTICLES DEVOTED TO AMERICAN AND WORLD PRESS REACTION TO HIJACKING AND TO STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN'S REJECTION OF CLAIM THAT US HAS CHANGED POLICY OF REFUSING TO NEGOTIATE WITH TERRORISTS.

2. MOST SIGNIFICANT VJESNIK ITEM IS UNSIGNED COMMENTARY ENTITLED "UNTENABILITY OF DUAL POLICY". COMMENTARY STATES THAT US CANNOT CONTINUE TO SEEK "NORMAL AND USEFUL" RELATIONS ON OFFICIAL LEVEL WHILE IT "TOLERATES THE PRESENCE AND ACTIVITY OF ANTI-YUGOSLAV TERRORIST EMIGRE GROUPS." WHILE THE "APPROVAL, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND OCCASIONAL USE OF FASCIST TERRORIST EMIGRES DOES NOT REFLECT THE ENTIRETY OF YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN RELATIONS," ARTICLE WARNS THAT "AMERICAN REACTIONARY CIRCLES" DO NOT

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CONSIDER AMERICAN NATIONAL INTERESTS IN CHOOSING

METHODS TO FORCE ABANDONMENT OF US POLICY "WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS." ACCORDING TO COMMENTARY, RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIJACKING IS WITH THE US GOVERNMENT FOR FAILING TO IDENTIFY AND PUNISH PERPETRATORS OF PREVIOUS ANTI-YUGOSLAV EXCESSES. ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH DEMAND FOR "COMPLETE CHANGE OF POLICY TOWARDS TERRORIST EXTREMIST GROUPS AND ADOPTION OF ENERGETIC AND RADICAL MEASURES TO PREVENT THEIR UNDISTURBED ACTIVITIES."
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